MECHAM, JOHN S. 1967. *Notophthalmus perstriatus.* Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles, p. 38.

Notophthalmus perstriatus (Bishop)
Striped newt

Triturus perstriatus Bishop, 1941:3. Type-locality, "Dedge Pond, 2 miles east of Chesser's Island, Charlton County, Georgia." Holotype Univ. Michigan Mus. Zool. 89761. a male, collected by S. C. Bishop, 14 February 1936.
Diemyctylus perstriatus: Neill, 1952:195.
Notophthalmus perstriatus: Smith, 1953:98.
Diemictylus viridescens perstriatus: Schmidt, 1953:25.
Diemictylus perstriatus: Neill, 1954:79.

• CONTENT. No subspecies have been proposed.

• DEFINITION. *Notophthalmus perstriatus* is a diminutive species with a total length of 52 to 79 mm, and a snout-vent length of 27 to 41 mm. in the aquatic adult. The proportions are slender. The head is widest at the orbits and slightly narrower behind; the head width is 66 to 71 percent of the head length. The eye is large, its long diameter about equal to the distance from the anterior angle of the eye to the nostril. The cranial ridges are poorly developed. The skin of the adult is smooth to finely granular. The vomero-palatine tooth rows originate slightly behind or opposite the rear margin of the internal nares. The hedonic pits are 3-3 in the male, and are absent in the female. Coloration of the adult is yellow below, dark brown to olive green above, with the dark dorsum clearly demarcated from the light venter. The venter usually is marked sparsely with small black specks, although these may be absent. The dorsum often lacks dark specks; if specks are present they are sparse, and are sometimes restricted to a series bordering the middorsal line. Two bright red to dull red dorsolateral stripes extend from the top of the head onto the base of the tail; the stripes, typically continuous on the trunk, are often broken on the head and on the tail. The dorsolateral red stripes may be unbordered or may have slight concentrations of dark pigment along the margins. Often a few red spots are present along the sides of the body. A light middorsal stripe usually is evident but is never red. The eft is orange-red with dorsolateral red stripes, as in the adult. The larva is marked dorsolateraly with a series of pale spots; the sides of tail have scattered dusky spots. The eft stage often is encountered; neoteny occurs frequently (Bishop 1941). The continuous, red dorsolateral stripes distinguish *N. perstriatus* from other members of the genus, all of which have either red spots, broken red stripes, or lack red dorsolateral markings.

• DESCRIPTIONS. Bishop (1941) gives complete descriptions of the morphology and coloration of adults and a brief description of the eft and mature larva. The account in Bishop (1943) is essentially an abbreviation of the earlier descriptions. Carr & Goin (1955) give a succinct review of morphology and color. Brief descriptions, primarily of color and pattern, are given by Conant (1958), and Blair, *et al.* (1957). Mecham & Hellman (1952) provide a detailed description of the newly hatched larva.

• ILLUSTRATIONS. Bishop (1941) provides a photograph of a male and (1943) three photographs of a preserved female. Carr & Goin (1955) present a photograph, and Conant (1958) offers a small colored photograph. The sex is given in neither case. Mecham & Hellman (1952) give drawings of dorsal and lateral views of the newly hatched larva.

• DISTRIBUTION. The species is found in the northern half of Florida, and in southern Georgia west to the longitude of Apalachee Bay. Adults are found in hammock ponds, flatwoods ponds, and the more permanent drainage ditches; efts in high and mesophytic hammocks on well drained soil, and in rosemary scrub, turkey-oak, and high pine (see Carr, 1940, for descriptions of habitat types).

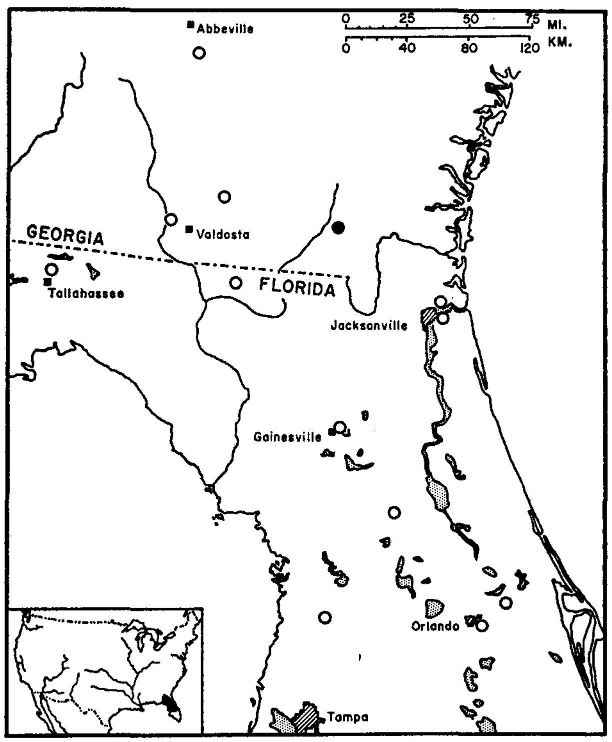
• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. Bishop's original paper (1941) remains the most comprehensive treatment of the species. Carr (1940) gives information on ecology and breeding of the form under *Triturus viridescens symmetrica.* Carr's use of this name derived from a misapplication of the name *symmetrica* by Stejneger and Barbour (1923) to *N. v. dorsalis*, a form with which *N. perstriatus* was confused prior to Bishop's description. Neill (1952) remarks on the sounds produced by this species, and (1954) justifies recognition of *N. perstriatus* as specifically distinct from *N. viridescens.*

• ETYMOLOGY. The name *perstriatus* refers to the continuous (*per*, Latin, "throughout") dorsolateral red lines (*striatus*, Latin, "channeled" or "lined").

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MAP. The solid symbol marks the type-locality. Hollow symbols represent other known localities.

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